



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**

Ireland et al.

**Serial No.:** 10/034,236

**Filed:** December 28, 2001

**For:** METHOD OF MAKING A CONTACT  
STRUCTURE

**Confirmation No.:** 9992

**Examiner:** H. Tsai

**Group Art Unit:** 2812

**Attorney Docket No.:** 2269-7000.2US  
(95-1141.02/US)

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**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 SUBMITTED**  
**WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are filed in response to the Examiner's remarks in the Final Office Action mailed February 14, 2006 ("Final Action"), the three-month shortened statutory period for response to which expires on May 14, 2006. This response is filed with a REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION and an INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this paper.